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(DETAILS INSIDE)
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DAREDEVIL®
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
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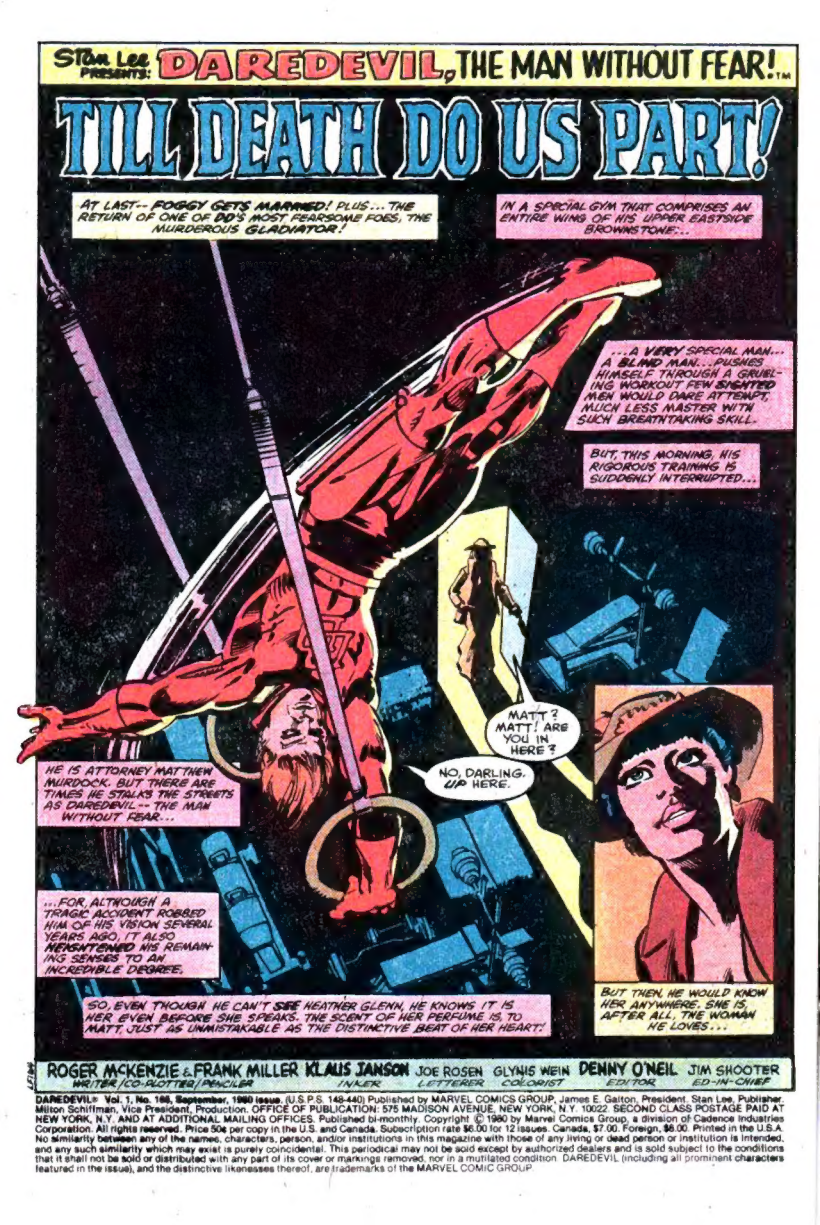
MILLER JASON



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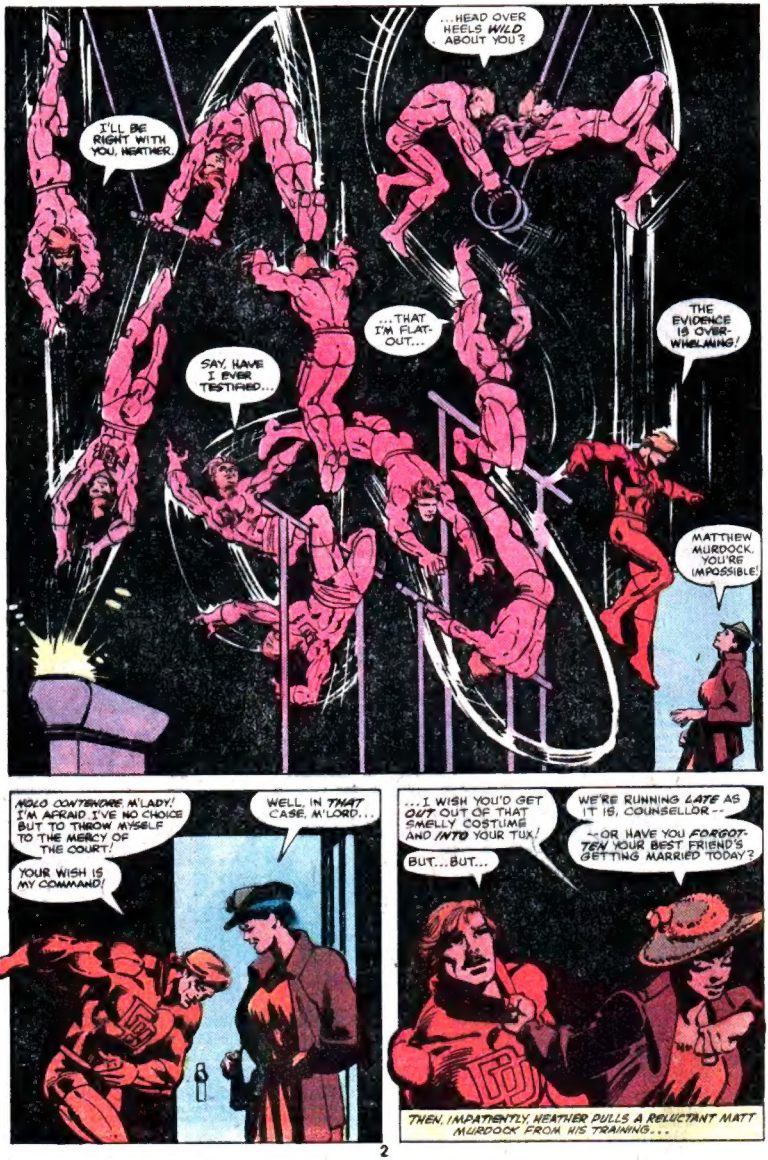
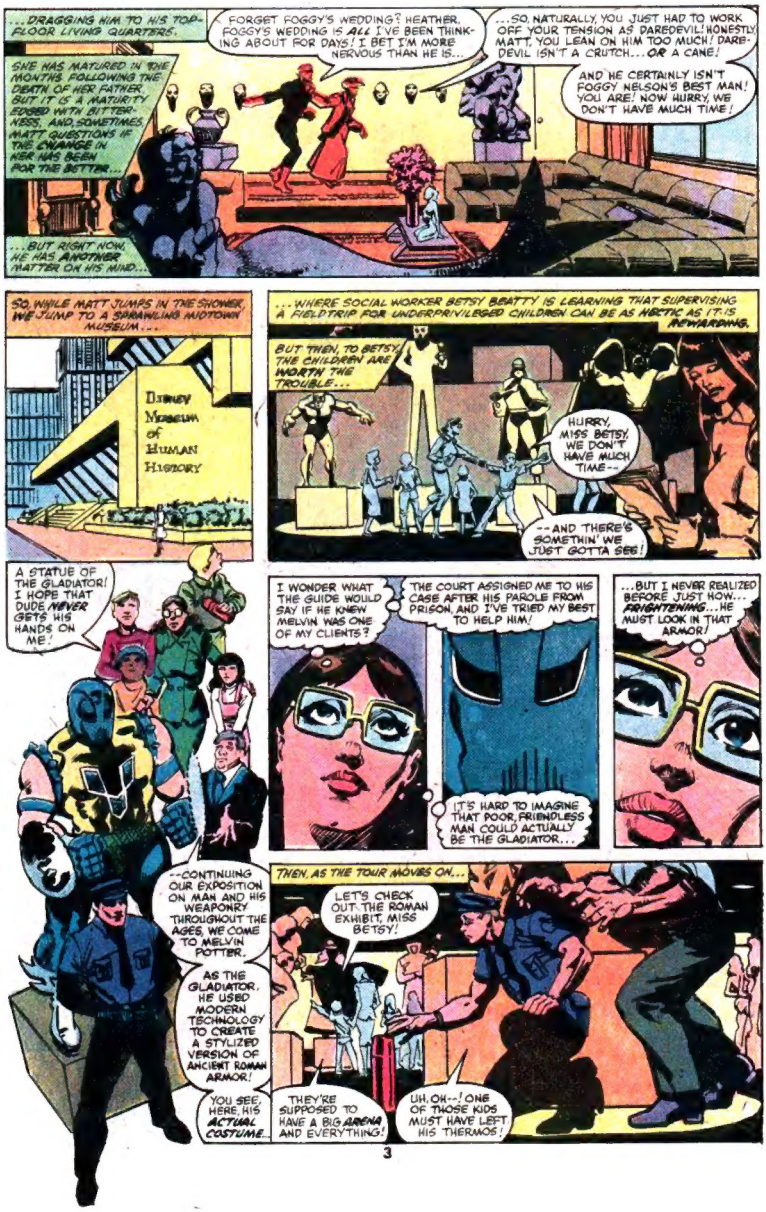
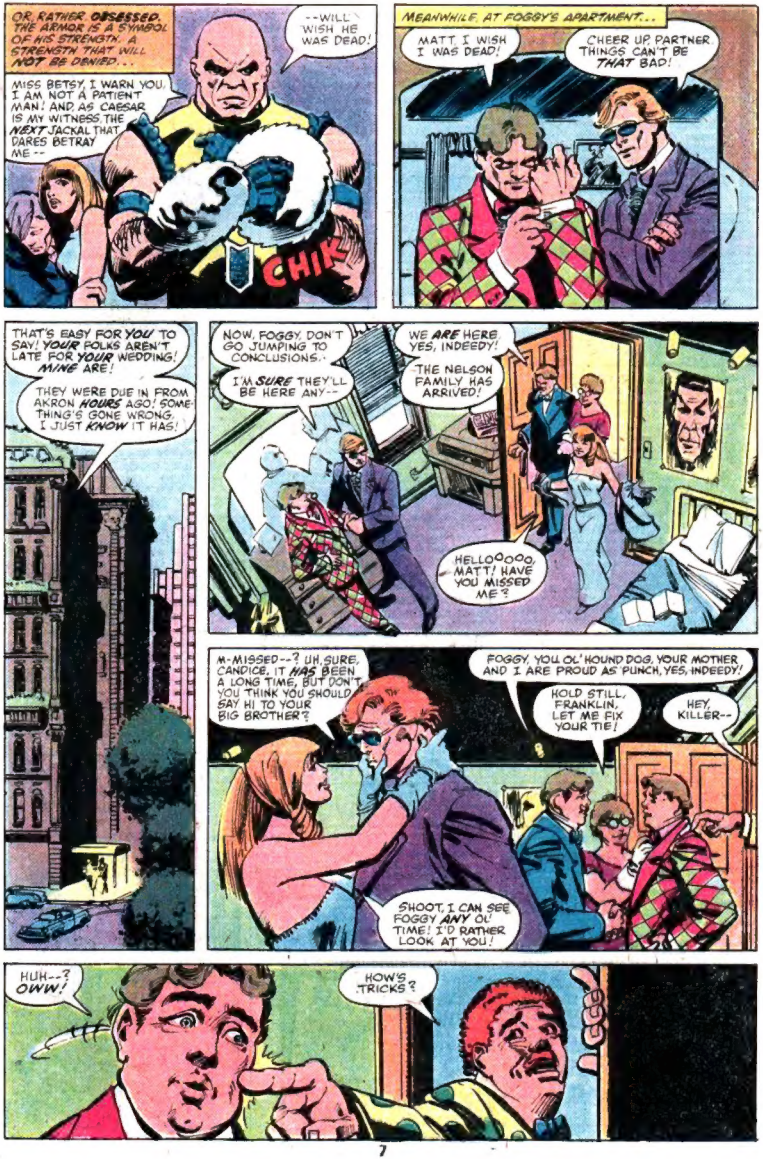

...HEAD OVER HEELS WILD ABOUT YOU?
I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU, HEATHER.
...THAT I'M FLAT-OUT...
THE EVIDENCE IS OVER-WHELMING!
SAY, HAVE I EVER TESTIFIED...
MATTHEW MURDOCK, YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE!
MOLO COWTENDRE M'LADY! I'M AFRAID I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO THROW MYSELF TO THE MERCY OF THE COURT!
WELL, IN THAT CASE, M'LORD...
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND!
...I WISH YOU'D GET OUT OUT OF THAT SMELLY COSTUME AND INTO YOUR TUX!
WE'RE RUNNING LATE AS IT IS, COUNSELLOR--
--OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR BEST FRIEND'S GETTING MARRIED TODAY?
BUT...BUT...
THEN, IMPATIENTLY, HEATHER PULLS A RELUCTANT MATT MURDOCK FROM HIS TRAINING...


...DRAGGING HIM TO HIS TOP-FLOOR LIVING QUARTERS.
SHE HAS MATURED IN THE MONTHS FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF HER FATHER, BUT IT IS A MATURITY EDGED WITH BITTERNESS. AND, SOMETIMES, MATT QUESTIONS IF THE CHANGES IN KAREN HAS BEEN FOR THE BETTER...
...BUT RIGHT NOW, HE HAS ANOTHER MATTER ON HIS MIND...
FORGET FOGGY'S WEDDING? HEATHER, FOGGY'S WEDDING IS ALL I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT FOR DAYS! I BET I'M MORE NERVOUS THAN HE IS...
...SO, NATURALLY, YOU JUST HAD TO WORK OFF YOUR TENSION AS DAREDEVIL! HONESTLY, MATT, YOU LEAN ON HIM TOO MUCH! DAREDEVIL ISN'T A CRUTCH... OR A CANE!
AND HE CERTAINLY ISN'T FOGGY NELSON'S BEST MAN! YOU ARE! NOW HURRY, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
SO, WHILE MATT JUMPS IN THE SHOWER, I'VE JUMP TO A SPRAWLING MIDTOWN MUSEUM...
DISNEY MUSEUM OF HUMAN HISTORY
...WHERE SOCIAL WORKER BETSY BEATTY IS LEARNING THAT SUPERVISING A FIELDTRIP FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN CAN BE AS HECTIC AS IT IS REWARDING.
BUT THEN, TO BETSY, THE CHILDREN ARE WORTH THE TROUBLE...
HURRY, MISS BETSY, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME--
--AND THERE'S SOMETHIN' WE JUST GOTTA SEE!
A STATUE OF THE GLADIATOR! I HOPE THAT DUDE NEVER GETS HIS HANDS ON ME!
I WONDER WHAT THE GUIDE WOULD SAY IF HE KNEW MELVIN WAS ONE OF MY CLIENTS?
THE COURT ASSIGNED ME TO HIS CASE AFTER HIS PAROLE FROM PRISON, AND I'VE TRIED MY BEST TO HELP HIM!
IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THAT POOR, FRIENDLESS MAN COULD ACTUALLY BE THE GLADIATOR...
...BUT I NEVER REALIZED BEFORE JUST HOW... FRIGHTENING... HE MUST LOOK IN THAT ARMOR!
--CONTINUING OUR EXPOSITION ON MAN AND HIS WEAPONRY THROUGHOUT THE AGES, WE COME TO MELVIN POTTER.
AS THE GLADIATOR, HE USED MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE A STYLIZED VERSION OF ANCIENT ROMAN ARMOR!
YOU SEE, HERE, HIS ACTUAL COSTUME.
THEN, AS THE TOUR MOVES ON...
LET'S CHECK OUT THE ROMAN EXHIBIT, MISS BETSY!
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A BIG ARENA AND EVERYTHING!
UH, OH--! ONE OF THOSE KIDS MUST HAVE LEFT HIS THERMOS!

NO PROBLEM, THOUGH. I'LL--
--HUH?!
YOU WILL DO *NOTHING*, JACKAL, BECAUSE YOU ARE WEAK!
JUST AS... *THEY*... ARE WEAK!
THEY FEAR ME BECAUSE I AM STRONG! THAT IS WHY THEY TRIED TO STEAL MY FREEDOM...
...AND *EVERYTHING* THAT IS RIGHTFULLY MINE!
THEY *BETRAYED* ME JUST LIKE THEY BETRAYED CAESAR!
BUT MY ARMOR WILL PROTECT ME--
MY ARMOR AND MY WEAPONS--!
MELVIN!
MISS BETSY!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THAT... THAT COSTUME...
I *FOLLOWED* YOU, MISS BETSY, BECAUSE I KNOW THE TRUTH!
THE TRUTH? WHAT'S HE TALKIN' ABOUT, MISS BETSY?
LARRY, I WISH I KNEW...
WATCH OUT--! THOSE BLADES LOOK RAZOR SHARP!
OH, MY--! THIS IS...*AHEM!*...HIGHLY IRREGULAR!

THE OTHERS FEAR ME, MISS BETSY! THEY FEAR ME AND THEY HATE ME!
BUT YOU ARE NOT LIKE THE OTHERS! YOU HAVE BEEN KIND TO ME--
--SO THERE IS NO LONGER ANY REASON TO PRETEND!
PRETEND?
ADMIT IT, MISS BETSY, YOU LOVE ME BECAUSE I AM THE GLADIATOR!
WHAT?!
BUT, BEFORE A STUNNED BETSY BEATTY CAN EXPLAIN THAT IN HIS LONELINESS, MELVIN HAS MISTAKEN HER COMPASSION TOWARD HIM FOR A MUCH DEEPER EMOTION...
GUARDS! GUARDS!
I-IT DOESN'T MATTER! PLEASE, LISTEN TO ME--!
NO! THAT JACKAL WILL RUIN EVERYTHING!
I WILL NOT BE BETRAYED!
NOT EVER AGAIN!
MELVIN, DON'T--! YOU'LL KILL HIM!
SNIK
PRESSING A HIDDEN STUD ON HIS FLEXIBLE STEEL GAUNTLET--
SHHH
HHHHHRRRR
RRRK
--THE GLADIATOR LAUNCHES A WHIRLING, DEADLY-SHARP WRIST-BLADE THE LENGTH OF THE MUSEUM WITH PINPOINT ACCURACY...
VERY WELL, MISS BETSY, IF IT IS WHAT YOU WANT, I WILL SPARE THE JACKAL...
...THIS TIME!
H-HELP ME... HELP...
EASY, MISTER, YOU'VE BEEN CUT BAD!
THEN, IGNORING THE UNEASY, STARTLED CROWD THAT SCURRIES FEARFULLY OUT OF HIS WAY, THE GLADIATOR LUMBERS FORWARD...
...RIPPING HIS GLEAMING, SAW-TOOTHED BLADE FROM THE WALL LIKE A MAN POSSESSED!


OR, RATHER OBSESSED. THE ARMOR IS A SYMBOL OF HIS STRENGTH. A STRENGTH THAT WILL NOT BE DENIED...
--WILL WISH HE WAS DEAD!
MISS BETSY, I WARN YOU. I AM NOT A PATIENT MAN! AND AS CAESAR IS MY WITNESS THE NEXT JACKAL THAT DARES BETRAY ME --
CHIK
MEANWHILE, AT FOGGY'S APARTMENT...
MATT, I WISH I WAS DEAD!
CHEER UP, PARTNER. THINGS CAN'T BE THAT BAD!
THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! YOUR FOLKS AREN'T LATE FOR YOUR WEDDING! MINE ARE!
THEY WERE DUE IN FROM AKRON HOURS AGO! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG. I JUST KNOW IT HAS!
NOW, FOGGY, DON'T GO JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS...
I'M SURE THEY'LL BE HERE ANY--
WE ARE HERE. YES, INDEEDY!
THE NELSON FAMILY HAS ARRIVED!
HELLOOOOO, MATT! HAVE YOU MISSED ME?
M-MISSED--? UH, SURE, CANDICE, IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME, BUT DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD SAY HI TO YOUR BIG BROTHER?
FOGGY, YOU OL' HOUND DOG, YOUR MOTHER AND I ARE PROUD AS PUNCH, YES, INDEEDY!
HOLD STILL, FRANKLIN, LET ME FIX YOUR TIE!
HEY, KILLER--
SHOOT, I CAN SEE FOGGY ANY OL' TIME! I'D RATHER LOOK AT YOU!
HUH--? OWW!
HOW'S TRICKS?
GGG

PORKCHOP! PORKCHOP PETERSON!
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE COLLEGE!
THAT'S YOUR LOSS, CHUM! I'M STILL LOOSE AS A GOOSE!
HEY, YOU REMEMBER OUR OLD FRATERNITY CHEER?
FAP
I'LL NEVER FORGET IT! FIRST YOU PUT YOUR TWO KNEES CLOSE UP TIGHT--
--THEN SHAKE IT TO THE LEFT AND SHAKE IT TO THE RIGHT!
OMEGA DELTA'S OUTTA SITE!
CANDICE, I THINK WE'D BETTER, UH...
SURE, MATT!
FOGGY, I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET THIS MISS HARRIS OF YOURS, YES, INDEEDY...
...SHE MUST BE QUITE A GAL!
SHE'D HAVE TO BE TO HOOK MY OLD CAROUSIN' BUDDY!
SAY, DID FOGGY EVER TELL YOU FOLKS ABOUT THE TIME WE SNUCK IN THE GIRLS' DORM AND--
--UH, I'M SURE YOU'LL LIKE DEBBIE, POP!
WELL, SPEAKING OF DEBBIE... WE'D BETTER HURRY!
SURE THING, MATT. JUST LET ME GIVE YOU HER WEDDING BAND BEFORE I LOSE IT.
YOU KNOW HOW I AM.
OH, MY GOSH...
...I LOST IT!

MEANWHILE...
GET OUT OF HERE! RUN! THE GLADIATOR HAS TAKEN OVER THE MUSEUM! HE'S HOLDING SOME KIDS HOSTAGE!
HE ALMOST KILLED ONE MAN ALREADY!
YOU HEARD ME, STRIPLING! DELIVER THAT MESSAGE TO THE AUTHORITIES WITHOUT DELAY!
THEY HAVE ONE HOUR TO SEND A CHAMPION TO BATTLE ME-- OR I WILL SLAY YOUR FRIENDS ONE-BY-ONE!
K-KILL THE CHILDREN?! MY GOD, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
I HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE SERIOUS! I WAS LOST UNTIL I MET YOU, BUT NOW I HAVE SOMETHING... SOMEONE... TO FIGHT FOR!
AND, BY THE HOLY EMPIRE, I WILL FIGHT!
F-FIGHT--? BUT, MELVIN, WHY? THERE'S NO REASON TO--
THERE IS EVERY REASON, MISS BETSY!
MMMFF--?!
DON'T EVER... EVER... TOUCH ME LIKE THAT AGAIN!
SMAK
I AM THE GLADIATOR! THE GLADIATOR! AND YOU DARE REJECT ME? IT IS UNTHINKABLE. UNLESS--
--YES, OF COURSE. I UNDERSTAND NOW! I MUST PROVE MYSELF IN COMBAT!
THEN SO BE IT, MISS BETSY. IF YOU WANT A WARRIOR YOU SHALL HAVE ONE!
ALL I WANT IS FOR YOU TO LET THE CHILDREN GO FREE--! PLEASE, MELVIN. JUST LET THEM GO...

THIRTY FIVE MINUTES LATER, ALONG A HEAVILY CONGESTED PARK AVENUE...
CAN'T YOU GO ANY FASTER, PAL? THIS'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!
LOOK, TUBBY, I'M DOIN' THE BEST I CAN, OK? SO JUST GIT OFF MY BACK!
BASES LOADED BY THREE WITH THE BOTTOM OF THE SIXTH, TWO OUTS AND A FULL COUNT
I'D LIKE TO HEAR THE GAME OK? I GOT A TEN-SPOT RIDIN' ON THE YANKS!
...KRAKK!... HOLY COW! CAMPBELL GETS THE SIGN FROM FISK... THERE'S THE WIND-UP... THE PITCH... IT'S A FLY BALL TO DEEP LEFT FIELD, HOOKING TOWARD THE FOUL POLE!
NOT TO WORRY, MATT! IF FOGGY LEFT THE RING AT THE SUPERMARKET, WE'RE JUST THE FELLAS TO FIND IT FOR 'IM!
COME ON, BABY! COME ON!
IF IT STAYS FAIR IT'S A HOME RUN! HOLY COW--! I DON'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S A--
SUPER--? OH, YOU MEAN THE STORE-FRONT.
SUPERMARKET... STORE-FRONT... WHATEVER. DON'T MATTER WHAT YOU GUYS CALL YOUR LAW OFFICES IF WE CAN'T GET THERE!
WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULAR PROGRAMMING FOR A SPECIAL NEWS REPORT! TENSION CONTINUES TO BUILD AT THE DIGBY MUSEUM OF HUMAN HISTORY IN DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN...
YOU JUST LET ME HANDLE THIS, MATT!
HEY--! HEY CABBIE--! HOW'S ABOUT GETTIN' A MOVE ON UP THERE?
...WHERE A MAN IDENTIFIED AS THE GLADIATOR IS APPARENTLY HOLDING SEVERAL CHILDREN HOSTAGE, THREATENING TO KILL THEM IN LESS THAN THIRTY MINUTES UNLESS...
THE GLADIATOR--?! OH, NO--! NOT NOW, OF ALL TIMES! IF I MISS FOGGY'S WEDDING HE'LL NEVER FORGIVE ME!
BUT IF I DON'T TRY TO HELP THOSE CHILDREN I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF!
YOU HEAR WHAT I'M SAYIN', MAN?
WE GOT A GOOD MIND TO GET OUT AND WALK, DON'T WE, MATT?
MATT?
NO SKIN OFF MY NOSE, TUBBY. IT'S A FREE COUNTRY. YOU WANT OUT, YOU GIT OUT, OK?
ME, I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO. I JUST WANNA KNOW WHO WON, OK?
...SO THAT WRAPS THINGS UP HERE AT YANKEE STADIUM. HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE GAME...
WHAT WRAPS THINGS UP? THAT DON'T WRAP THINGS UP! SO WHO WON, ALREADY?!

SOME TWENTY MINUTES LATER, A GRIM AND SIGHTLESS **DEVIL** PAUSES IN THE SHADOWS SURROUNDING THE BESIEGED MUSEUM.

BUT IF HE FEELS THE GROWING **RESTLESSNESS** OF THE CROWD ALREADY GATHERED SO VERY FAR BELOW HIM--AN UNEASY MILLING THRONG HE CAN ONLY **SENSE** RATHER THAN SEE--

--HE DOESN'T LET IT SHOW AS HE SEEMS TO GLIDE ALMOST EFFORTLESSLY ACROSS THE CITY'S DARKENING SKYLINE.

AND THEN, USING HIS CANE--A CANE HE DESIGNED TO DOUBLE AS AN ALL-PURPOSE BILLY CLUB--

--HE SWINGS QUICKLY TO THE ROOFTOP OF THE SLEEK CONCRETE AND STEEL GALLERY THAT HAS BECOME A CHAMBER OF FEAR FOR BETSY BEATTY AND THE CHILDREN HELD CAPTIVE WITHIN.

JUDGING FROM THE SOUNDS I HEARD BEFORE IN THE STREETS, THE POLICE HAVE THROWN A **CORDON** AROUND THIS BUILDING.

BUT IT'S A STAND-OFF, AT BEST. THEY CAN'T ATTACK THE GLADIATOR WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THE LIVES OF THE KIDS.

IF ANYTHING'S TO BE DONE, I'LL HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO DO IT.

AND SOON.

I CAN PINPOINT THE GLADIATOR'S EXACT POSITION THANKS TO MY SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING AND RADAR SENSE. BUT THAT'S THE **LEAST** OF MY PROBLEMS.

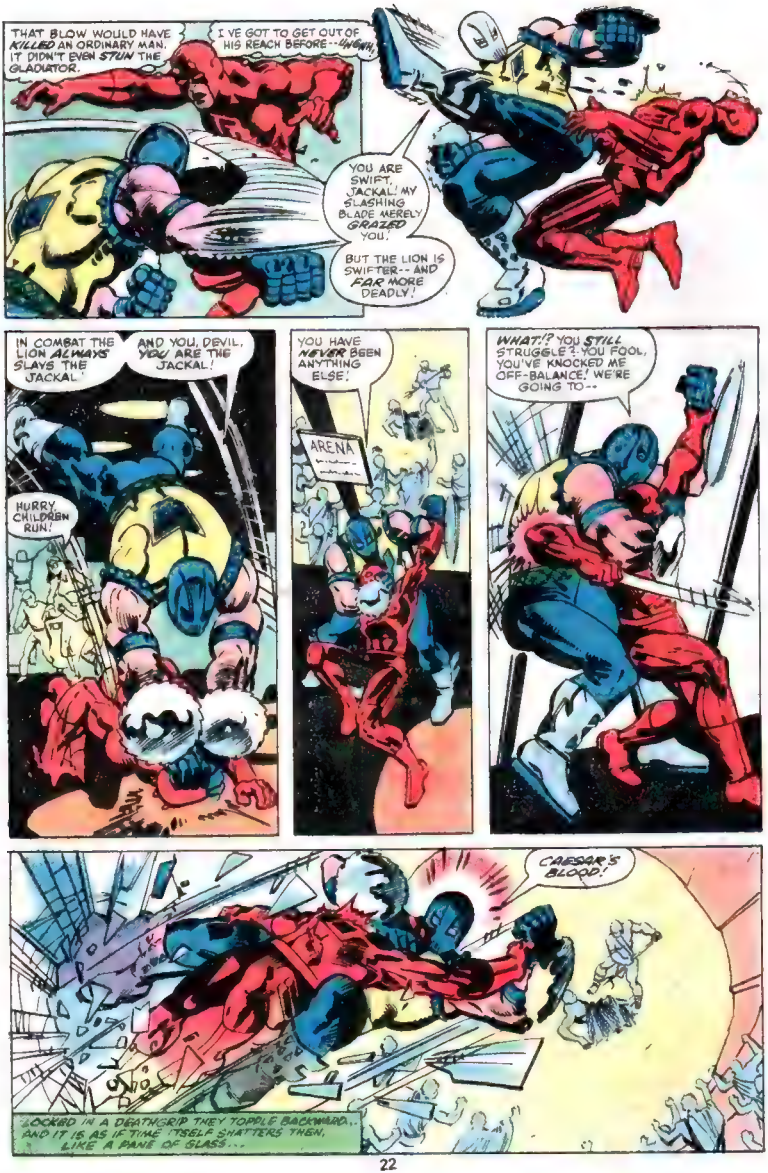
SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO LURE HIM **AWAY** FROM THE KIDS TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO ESCAPE.

THE HOUR HAS PASSED! THEY HAVE SENT NO CHAMPION!

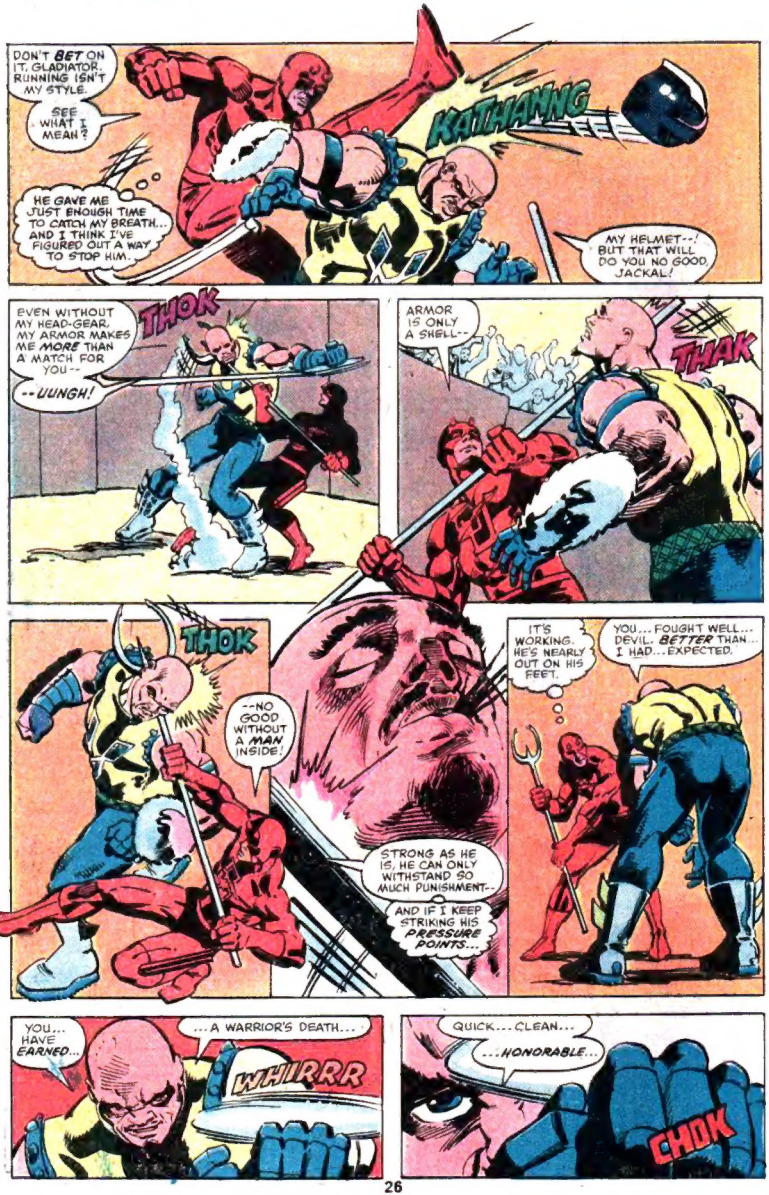
HOW CAN I WIN YOUR HEART, MISS BETSY, IF THEY WILL **NOT** LET **ME FIGHT** FOR IT?

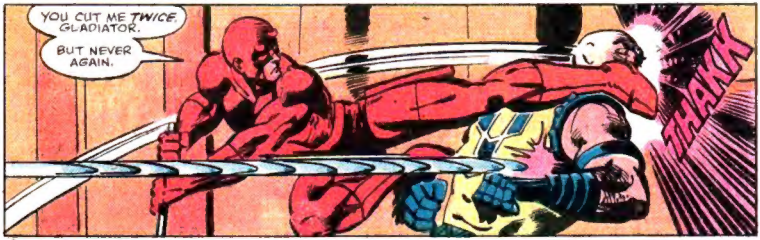
THEY DENY ME EVERYTHING, MISS BETSY! THEY WILL NOT DENY ME YOU AS WELL!
THE DEATHS OF THE STRIPLINGS ARE ON THEIR HANDS, NOW!
MELVIN, PLEASE. I--I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY! JUST DON'T HARM THE CHILDREN!
THEN, THE NEXT INSTANT...
YOU HEARD THE LADY!
WHO'S THAT?
AN OLD FOE
I KNOW HIS VOICE!
IT IS THE VOICE OF A DEVIL!
WHERE ARE YOU, JACKAL? YOU CAN NOT HIDE FROM ME FOREVER!
WHO'S HIDING?
ZZZRRR

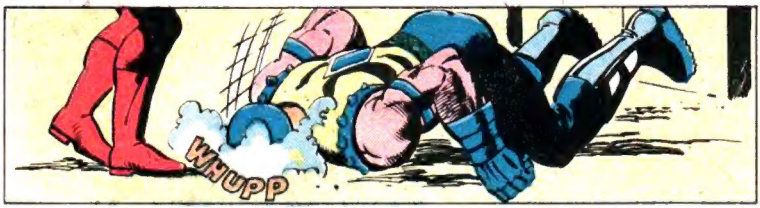
I'M NOT A CHILD YOU CAN FRIGHTEN OR BULLY, GLADIATOR.
SHRAKK
I PLAY FOR KEEPS.
IF YOU THINK THIS IS SOME SORT OF GAME, JACKAL--
SALTMAN
--YOU ARE SADLY MISTAKEN!
--BUT EVEN A TANK CAN BE STOPPED.
HE'S LIKE A TANK IN THAT HEAVY ARMOR--


THAT BLOW WOULD HAVE KILLED AN ORDINARY MAN. IT DIDN'T EVEN STUN THE GLADIATOR.
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HIS REACH BEFORE--UNGH!
YOU ARE SWIFT, JACKAL! MY SLASHING BLADE MERELY GRAZED YOU!
BUT THE LION IS SWIFTER-- AND FAR MORE DEADLY!
IN COMBAT THE LION ALWAYS SLAYS THE JACKAL!
AND YOU, DEVIL, YOU ARE THE JACKAL!
HURRY, CHILDREN, RUN!
YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN ANYTHING ELSE!
ARENA
WHAT!? YOU STILL STRUGGLE!? YOU FOOL, YOU'VE KNOCKED ME OFF-BALANCE! WE'RE GOING TO--
CAESAR'S BLOOD!
LOCKED IN A DEATHGRIP THEY TOPPLE BACKWARD... AND IT IS AS IF TIME ITSELF SHATTERS THEN, LIKE A PANE OF GLASS...

..AND THE CHEERS OF A BLOOD-THIRSTY RABBLE SEEM TO ECHO ACROSS THE CENTURIES TO THIS RECONSTRUCTION OF..
AN ANCIENT ROMAN ARENA!
IT IS AN OMEN!
LISTEN TO THE SPECTATORS!
HEAR HOW THEY URGE ME ON!
YOU HEAR ONLY THE SOUND OF YOUR OWN INSANITY!
YOU LIE! THEY SCREAM FOR DEATH, JACKAL! YOUR DEATH!
AND THEY SHALL HAVE IT--
--WITH BUT A GESTURE FROM MY EMPEROR.
WHAT SAY YOU, NOBLE CAESAR? DO I SPARE THE JACKAL, OR--?
SO BE IT, MY LIEGE! THOSE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE SALUTE--
EH--? THE JACKAL HAS FLED!


DON'T BET ON IT, GLADIATOR. RUNNING ISN'T MY STYLE.
SEE WHAT I MEAN?
HE GAVE ME JUST ENOUGH TIME TO CATCH MY BREATH... AND I THINK I'VE FIGURED OUT A WAY TO STOP HIM..
KATHANNG
MY HELMET--! BUT THAT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD, JACKAL!
EVEN WITHOUT MY HEAD-GEAR, MY ARMOR MAKES ME MORE THAN A MATCH FOR YOU--
--UUNGH!
THOK
ARMOR IS ONLY A SHELL--
THAK
THOK
--NO GOOD WITHOUT A MAN INSIDE!
STRONG AS HE IS, HE CAN ONLY WITHSTAND SO MUCH PUNISHMENT--
AND IF I KEEP STRIKING HIS PRESSURE POINTS...
IT'S WORKING. HE'S NEARLY OUT ON HIS FEET.
YOU... FOUGHT WELL... DEVIL. BETTER THAN I HAD... EXPECTED.
YOU... HAVE EARNED...
...A WARRIOR'S DEATH...
WHIRRR
QUICK... CLEAN...
...HONORABLE...
CHOK

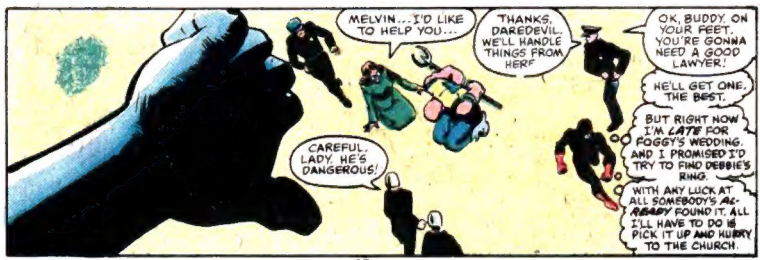

YOU CUT ME TWICE, GLADIATOR.
BUT NEVER AGAIN.
THAKK

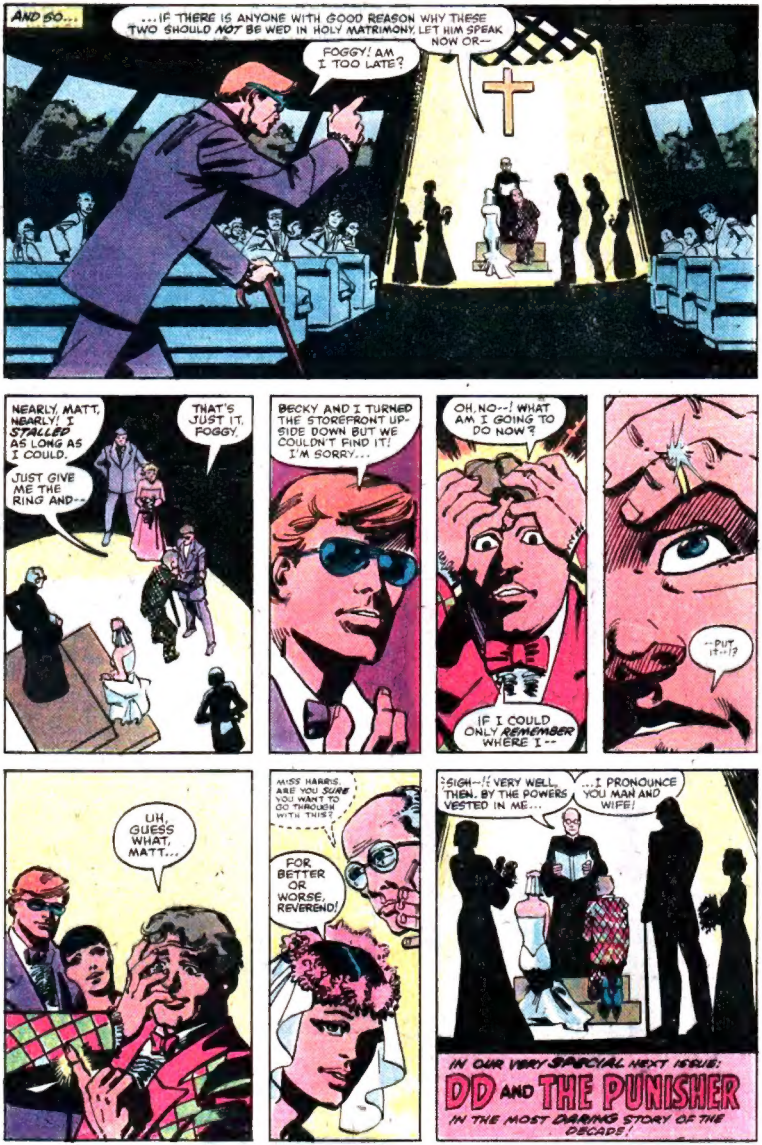

WHUPP

THEN...
DAREDEVIL--
MISS, ARE THE CHILDREN--?
THEY'RE FINE, BUT IT'S NOT THE CHILDREN I'M WORRIED ABOUT, NOW.
CAESAR... MY EMPEROR...

IT'S MELVIN. IN MANY RESPECTS HE IS A CHILD. A TERRIBLY LONELY AND BITTER CHILD. HE REACHED OUT FOR LOVE IN THE ONLY WAY HE KNEW.
NOW, MORE THAN EVER, HE NEEDS UNDERSTANDING.

"AND A HELPING HAND..."


MELVIN... I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU...
THANKS, DAREDEVIL. WE'LL HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE.
OK, BUDDY. ON YOUR FEET. YOU'RE GONNA NEED A GOOD LAWYER!
HE'LL GET ONE. THE BEST.
BUT RIGHT NOW I'M LATE FOR FOGGY'S WEDDING. AND I PROMISED I'D TRY TO FIND DEBBIE'S RING.
WITH ANY LUCK, AT ALL SOMEBODY'S ALREADY FOUND IT. ALL I'LL HAVE TO DO IS PICK IT UP AND HURRY TO THE CHURCH.
CAREFUL, LADY. HE'S DANGEROUS!


AND SO...
...IF THERE IS ANYONE WITH GOOD REASON WHY THESE TWO SHOULD NOT BE WED IN HOLY MATRIMONY, LET HIM SPEAK NOW OR--
FOGGY! AM I TOO LATE?
NEARLY, MATT, NEARLY! I STALLED AS LONG AS I COULD.
JUST GIVE ME THE RING AND--
THAT'S JUST IT, FOGGY.
BECKY AND I TURNED THE STOREFRONT UP-SIDE DOWN BUT WE COULDN'T FIND IT! I'M SORRY...
OH, NO--! WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NOW?
IF I COULD ONLY REMEMBER WHERE I--
--PUT IT--!?
UH, GUESS WHAT, MATT...
MISS HARRIS, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS?
FOR BETTER OR WORSE, REVEREND!
SIGH--! VERY WELL, THEN. BY THE POWERS VESTED IN ME...
...I PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!
IN OUR VERY SPECIAL NEXT ISSUE:
DD AND THE PUNISHER
IN THE MOST DARING STORY OF THE DECADE!

LET'S LEVEL WITH DAREDEVIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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MARK GRUENWALD
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Anybody notice the brand new DD logo and corner symbol designed by our own LANKY FRANK MILLER? We think it's pure dynamite, worthy of DD's astounding rise in popularity these past few months. You know if this keeps up, we may *not* be bi-monthly much longer!

—ROG.

Dear Rog and Frank,

DAREDEVIL #164 was beautiful! Never have I seen a comic so touching, so moving, so incredibly dynamic as this one. The origin of DD was never portrayed as well as it is here. For the first time ever I could see the story through DD's eyes (or at least his radar-sense).

Roger, great job! The caring that went on in this story, whether it was super hero to super hero, father to son, or friend to friend was superbly handled. The portions of newspaper articles, the actual proof of DD's blindness through the use of a photograph, and the final burning of the story of a lifetime were excellent touches.

Frank, **as always**, your art was magnificent! You handle DD better than anyone I've ever seen thus far. I especially enjoyed the bonus pin-up.

And to the rest of you guys and gals who contributed to the making of a fabulous comic... thank you.

Steve Thurman
Fresno, CA 93711

Glad you liked it, Steve. But, truth to tell, the mailbag this issue was sharply divided. For instance...

Dear Editor,

My first reaction to DD #164 was — well, that's a nice way to slip in an album issue. I was somewhat disappointed since I felt the Ben Urich sub-plot had good possibilities and to see it wrapped up in "half an issue" was unexpected. However, it was woven nicely into the flashbacks which did directly relate to the matter at hand. (So often the flashbacks of a career in an issue like this are artificially introduced, usually being merely a nostalgic enterprise by the character.) And I suppose you *do* have to recap DD's origin on occasion for the benefit of new readers. Still it's a bit sad to see a "wasted" (or half-wasted) issue in a bi-monthly mag; we see little enough of DD as it is.

T.M. Maple
(no address given)

Or...

Dear Rog & Frank,

Well, we see, for the 83rd time, the origin of Daredevil. So what?

I'll tell you so what! New insights! Battlin' Murdock's meeting with the Fixer gave us feeling of what Matt's father would do for him. And the army truck-driver's heart attack adn accident tells us more of what really caused Matt to gain his hyper-senses.

Thanks for the different view of DD's origin.

John T. Miller
Lansing, MI 48901

So that's pretty much the way the mail ran this time out, with the pros slightly outweighing the cons. Oddly enough, though, both schools of thought are, in many ways, correct.

We *do* feel an obligation to our new readers, which, according to sales figures, are considerable. And, yet, long-time readers *have* seen DD's origin before.

Which leaves *us* between a rock and a hard place. As John Miller (and many others) deduced, we tried to give *all* our readers, old and new, their money's worth... by incorporating the Ben Urich storyline to set up the origin tale for the new readers... by incorporating new material within the origin itself whenever possible for our older readers.

Dear Frank & Rog,

While some reporters are wont to recklessly endanger the lives of fifty innocent hostages by prematurely disclosing the events of a lesser melodrama involving six of our embassy personnel and several Canadian diplomats, or invite nuclear catastrophe to millions of Americans by laying open the security-lapse Three Mile Island complex to saboteurs in newsprint, it was refreshing to read about such a responsible, albeit fictional, journalist as Ben Urich in DAREDEVIL #164, who literally wielded the power to doom many people caught up in DD's sphere of influence by hi sizzling expose and chose to abstain.

Jeffrey Lowndes
Scranton, PA 18509

Whew, Jeff, that's just about the longest... and certainly one of the most gratifying... sentences we've read in many a day! Ben Urich, our work-a-day reporter seems to have made quite an impression on many of our readers. Rest assured, when the situation presents itself, Ben will be seen again. Not too shabby for a throw-away character first introduced in issue #153, huh?

Dear Frank & Rog,

DAREDEVIL #164 is such a beautiful example of pictorial storytelling that when other 'grown ups' ask me "Hey, what's a guy your age doing reading funny books," DD #164 is one of the few I'll show them.

William Greeley
22065 DeBerry St.
Colton, CA 92324

Well, that just about brings us to the end of another issue. We hope you enjoyed it. And we urge you to be with us in just two short months when we launch into what will undoubtedly prove to be one of the most controversial stories we've ever done. It's called "Child's Play", and it guest-stars *The Punisher*.

And that's the way it is...

—Rog.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #57** — *The Thing and Hyperion* square off!
- ☐ **SHOGUN WARRIORS #20** — Collector's Item last issue! Guest-stars the *FF!*
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #30** — The Web-Lady battles the Fly!
- ☐ **STAR TREK #5** — An outer-space murder mystery!
- ☐ **SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #43** — Easy-to-read Spidey thrillers!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #166** — *The Gladiator!*
- ☐ **KING CONAN #3** — "Red Moon of Zamkabwee!"
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER HEROES #81** — (Reprints Hulk #140) Enter: *Jarella!*
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN #206** — Spidey faces the dual menace of... Fusion!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #268** — Machinesmith's robot army!
- ☐ **THOR #284** — The mortal Thor falls victim to Hagen's wiles!
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #21** — When strikes... the Plantman!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #46** — Wild West vampires! 'Nuff said!
- ☐ **SHE-HULK #6** — Guest-stars Man Thing!
- ☐ **MARVEL FUN AND GAMES #13** — Mazes, puzzles, riddles and general laziness!
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER ACTION #23** — (Reprints Avengers #62) *The Black Panther* fights alone!
- ☐ **AMAZING ADVENTURES #18** — (Reprinted from X-Men #5 & and 47) Magneto's orbiting death fortress! Plus: Ice man's origin!
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #261** — From the fabulous 50's comes... the *3-D Man!*
- ☐ **AVENGERS #198** — To save the Earth... Death-duel with *Red Raven!*
- ☐ **CONAN #114** — "The Shadow of the Beast!"
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #119** — (Reprints Spidey #142) Show down with Mysterio!
- ☐ **MARVEL'S GREATEST #92** — (Reprints FF #112) *The Thing vs. the Hulk!*
- ☐ **X-MEN #137** — The stunning *double-length "Fate of the Phoenix!"*
- ☐ **TALES TO ASTONISH #10** — (Reprints Sub-Mariner #10) Captain Barracuda's get the Serpent Crown!
- ☐ **ROM #19** — ROM vs. the Air Force!
- ☐ **FANTASY MASTERPIECES #10** — (Reprints Silver Surfer #10 and Strange Tales #180) *The Surfer & Starlin's Warlock!* What more could you ask?
- ☐ **MAN-THING #6** — Rampaging youths stalk the Man Thing!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #232** — "The Possession of Franklin Richards!"
- ☐ **TEAM-UP #97** — *Spider-Woman vs. The Hulk!*
- ☐ **IRON MAN #136** — Tony Stark takes on the Magpie!
- ☐ **PETER PARKER #46** — The coils of the *Cobra!*
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #87** — "Inquest!"
- ☐ **STAR WARS #39** — Beginning... *The Empire Strikes Back!*
- ☐ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #92** — Combat between Clans to-town!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #8** — *Captain Marvel* — stranded on the planet of stopped time!
- ☐ **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #19** — Starbuck escapes Scavenge World — but to where!?
- ☐ **TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL #6** — *The Thing and The Hulk* —together!
- ☐ **HULK ANNUAL #8** — A team of all-new super heroines challenges *el Gremlon!*
- ☐ **MARVEL TREASURY #27 : THE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN** — A giant-sized re-presentation of the Wall-Crawler's most electrifying *team-ups!*

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **CRAZY #66** — The insanity rolls on with Teen-Hulk, Howard the Duck, "The Bleech Hole!", *and lots more!*
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #56** — The Cimmerian must wrest his very soul from a sinister *soul-demon!*
- ☐ **TOMB OF DRACULA #6** — Dracula in the days of the Civil War! Plus: *Lilith!*
- ☐ **THE HULK #22** — A crazed scientist plans nuclear war! Also: *Dominic Fortune* with awesome painting by Howard Chaykin!